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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT



1915-1916

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR, 1915-1916



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CITY OF BOSTON
PRINTING DEPARTMENT
1916

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County Department
June 1915
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TRUSTEES OF THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT.

CHARLES E. PHIPPS, *Chairman.*

FREDERICK E. ATTEAUX	Term ends in 1916
CHARLES E. PHIPPS	" " 1917
JACOB R. MORSE	" " 1918
ALBERT W. HERSEY	" " 1919
JOHN J. MADDEN	" " 1920

COMMITTEES.

On Accounts	THE ENTIRE BOARD.
On Greenhouses and Grounds . . .	MR. ATTEAUX, MR. HERSEY AND MR. MADDEN.
On Employees and Pay Rolls . . .	MR. ATTEAUX.
On Purchases and Supplies . . .	MR. HERSEY.
On Improvements and Repairs . . .	MR. MORSE AND MR. MADDEN.
On Copp's Hill, Bunker Hill, Phipps Street and Bennington Street Grounds	MR. ATTEAUX.
On King's Chapel, Granary and Cen- tral Grounds	MR. MORSE.
On South End South and Eliot (Eustis street) Grounds	MR. HERSEY.
On Dorchester North, Dorchester South and Hawes Grounds . . .	MR. MADDEN.
On Mount Hope, Evergreen, Fairview, Walter Street, Westerly, Market Street, Warren and Rainsford Island Grounds	THE ENTIRE BOARD.
JOHN FRANK KEATING	<i>Secretary.</i>
LEONARD W. ROSS	<i>General Superintendent.</i>

Office of Cemetery Department, 1001 City Hall Annex.
(Post Office Address of Superintendent — Mattapan, Mass.)

CHAPTER 375.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A CEMETERY DEPARTMENT IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. There shall be in the city of Boston a cemetery department, which shall be under the charge of a board of five trustees appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the board of aldermen. Said trustees shall, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, be appointed, one for the term of one year, one for the term of two years, one for the term of three years, one for the term of four years and one for the term of five years, each term beginning with the first day of May in said year; and annually thereafter the mayor shall appoint, subject to confirmation as aforesaid, one trustee for the term of five years, beginning with the first day of May in the year of appointment. Chapter two hundred and sixty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-five, and all acts relating to departments and officers of departments in the city of Boston, shall, so far as applicable, apply to said department and the officers and employees thereof.

SECT. 2. Said board shall have charge of Mount Hope Cemetery and of all other burial grounds owned by or in charge of the city of Boston; shall set apart and appropriate a portion of said cemetery as a public burying ground for the use of the inhabitants of said city, free from any charge therefor; shall lay out said cemetery in suitable lots or other subdivisions for family or other burials, with necessary paths and avenues; shall plant and embellish the said cemetery with trees, shrubs, flowers and other rural ornaments; may enclose and divide the same with proper fences; may erect or annex thereto suitable edifices, appendages or conveniences; and may make such by-laws, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with statutes or ordinances, as they may deem advisable; and shall perform such other duties relative to such cemetery and said burial grounds as the city council may from time to time prescribe. All acts and all ordinances of said city relating to Mount Hope Cemetery, shall, so far as they are not inconsistent herewith, apply to said department and the officers in charge thereof.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[Approved May 10, 1897.]

CHAPTER 117.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY
OF BOSTON.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Cemetery Trustees of the City of Boston shall pay into the treasury of the city all receipts of the Cemetery Department from all sources other than from deposits for perpetual care.

SECT. 2. The City Treasurer shall keep the funds so deposited by the Cemetery Trustees separate from other money and accounts of the city, and the City Treasurer is hereby authorized to invest and reinvest all funds so deposited by the Cemetery Trustees in proper securities and shall allow said funds and the income thereon to accumulate until such time as the income of the fund is sufficient in the opinion of the Mayor and of the Cemetery Trustees to meet the current expenses and expenditures of the Cemetery Department; provided, however, that at any time the Mayor may originate an appropriation for the Cemetery Department to be met out of the income of said fund accruing during a fiscal year.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[Approved February 18, 1913.]

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

BOSTON, February 1, 1916.

HON. JAMES M. CURLEY,
Mayor of the City of Boston:

SIR,—In accordance with chapter 3, section 24, of the Revised Ordinances, the Board of Trustees of the Cemetery Department present their annual report for the financial year ending January 31, 1916.

This Board organized on May 4, at which time Mr. Charles E. Phipps was elected chairman, and Mr. Jacob R. Morse was elected as vice chairman.

Mr. John J. Madden was reappointed as Cemetery Trustee for a term of five years, ending April 30, 1920. Your Honor recognized the faithful work of Mr. Madden in this reappointment, and his fellow trustees hereby express to you their appreciation of your action in appointing for a second term a gentleman whose kindly advice and charitable actions have so often impressed the members of this Board in their deliberations.

The following officials were appointed by the Board to carry out the work of the department under the direction of the trustees:

Mr. Leonard W. Ross, general superintendent, in control of the work carried on in the cemeteries and burying grounds of the department, with headquarters at Mount Hope Cemetery, and direct supervision of the work in and pertaining to that cemetery.

Mr. John Frank Keating, secretary, as the executive officer of the Board of Trustees, in charge of the department office at 1001 City Hall Annex. The minutes and deeds and the financial transactions of the department are recorded in this office.

The following custodians were appointed, and are under direction of the general superintendent:

Mr. Charles P. Harding, Evergreen Cemetery and Market Street Burying Ground.

Mr. John J. Burnes, Dorchester North, Dorchester South and Hawes Burying Grounds.

Mr. Frank L. Turner, Bennington Street Cemetery.

Mr. Augustus M. Lydston, Phipps Street and Bunker Hill Burying Grounds.

Mr. John Norton, Copp's Hill Burying Ground.

Mr. Frank T. Donovan, Fairview Cemetery.

King's Chapel, Granary, Central, South End South, Eliot, Kearsarge, Westerly, Walter Street and Rainsford Island Burying Grounds are under direct charge of the general superintendent.

The department telephone is Fort Hill 5100 — Cemetery Department.

DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.

The burying grounds, cemeteries and tombs which are owned by and in charge of the City of Boston are as follows:

EAST BOSTON.

Ward 1.

Bennington Street, 157,500 square feet.

Ward 2.

Rainsford Island, 43,560 square feet.

CHARLESTOWN.

Ward 3.

Bunker Hill, 48,202 square feet.

Ward 5.

Phipps Street, 76,740 square feet.

CITY PROPER.

Ward 6.

Copp's Hill, Hull street, 89,015 square feet.

King's Chapel, Tremont street, 19,344 square feet.

Ward 7.

Granary, Tremont street, 82,063 square feet.

Central, Common, 60,693 square feet.

Ward 12.

South End South, Washington street, 64,570 square feet.

SOUTH BOSTON.

Ward 14.

Hawes, Emerson street, 11,232 square feet.

ROXBURY.

Ward 17.

Eliot, Eustis street, 34,830 square feet.

Warren, Kearsarge avenue, 54,500 square feet.

DORCHESTER.

Ward 20.

North, Upham's Corner, 142,587 square feet.

WEST ROXBURY.

Ward 23.

Mount Hope, Walk Hill street, 117 acres and 36,536 square feet. Opposite Mount Hope are two lots of unused land on Berry street, north corner Manning street, 7,150 square feet; and Berry street, south corner Manning street, 5,262 square feet.

Westerly, Centre street, 39,450 square feet.

Walter street, 35,100 square feet.

DORCHESTER.

Ward 24.

South, Dorchester avenue, 95,462 square feet.

BRIGHTON.

Ward 25.

Evergreen, Commonwealth avenue, 604,520 square feet.

Market Street, 18,072 square feet.

HYDE PARK.

Ward 26.

Fairview Cemetery, Fairview avenue, about fifty acres.

CITY TOMBS.

Twenty-five in the South Burying Ground; six in Phipps Street Ground, Charlestown; one tomb for infants in South Burying Ground; one tomb for infants and one for adults in the Copp's Hill Burying Ground; one for adults and one for infants in the Granary Burying Ground; one for infants in the Chapel Burying Ground; one in the Central Burying Ground for infants; two receiving tombs in East Boston; one receiving tomb in Dorchester North; one receiving tomb in Dorchester South; one receiving tomb in Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton; one receiving tomb in Mount Hope Cemetery; and one receiving tomb in Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park.

CEMETERY TRUST FUND.

Trust Fund principal, 1913-14	\$30,773 21
Interest on same, 1913-14	60 00
Trust Fund principal, 1914-15	32,621 88
Interest on same, 1914-15	1,520 00
Trust Fund principal, 1915-16	31,437 25
Interest on same, 1915-16	2,811 47
	<u>\$99,223 81</u>

DETAIL OF TRUST FUND PRINCIPAL BY CEMETERIES.

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
Mount Hope.....	\$22,205 56	\$23,503 49	\$21,174 55
Fairview.....	3,987 25	4,514 80	4,835 15
Evergreen.....	3,824 20	4,120 05	4,951 80
Dorchester North.....	346 95	281 75	245 00
Dorchester South.....	123 80	87 20	59 25
Copp's Hill.....	65 68	.....	30 00
Bennington Street.....	51 00	50 00	40 00
Central.....	45 00	15 00	15 00
Westerly.....	36 00	9 90	1 00
Phipps Street.....	34 60	24 00	26 00
King's Chapel.....	29 45	3 00	9 50
South End South.....	15 00	.....	15 00
Granary.....	8 72	7 69	15 00
Eliot.....	.....	.....	15 00
Bunker Hill.....	.....	.....	5 00
	<u>\$30,773 21</u>	<u>\$32,621 88</u>	<u>\$31,437 25</u>

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION.

Fairview Cemetery.

January 1, 1912	\$11,953 28
Expended to January 31, 1916	7,734 53
Unexpended balance	<u>\$4,218 75</u>

REGULAR APPROPRIATION.

February 1, 1915, appropriation	\$88,500 00
Transfer from Reserve Fund	20 19
Interest on Perpetual Care Fund	7,096 28
Total appropriation	<u>\$95,616 47</u>
Total expenditures	<u>95,616 47</u>

Money Earned for the City from

	Mount Hope.	Evergreen.	Fairview.	Dorchester North.	Dorchester South.	Bennington Street.
Lots sold.....	\$3,689 50	\$3,234 00	\$1,560 00	.....	.....	.....
Graves sold.....	6,644 00	440 00	1,710 00	.....	.....	.....
Interments.....	6,057 00	350 50	1,015 50	\$93 00	\$20 00	\$40 00
Foundations.....	1,434 60	351 80	329 15	9 00	5 25	.....
Care.....	806 00	444 00	87 00	131 00	34 00	.....
Planting.....	732 25	7 00	5 50	6 00	.....	.....
Receiving tomb.....	420 00	62 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....
Plants, sale, use.....	365 15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Evergreen.....	313 00	3 00	36 00	6 00	.....	.....
Grade, seed, sod.....	281 00	25 50	60 00	.....	.....	.....
Myrtling.....	117 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Preparing.....	104 00	4 00	22 00	.....	.....	.....
Sale of material.....	73 55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Boxes.....	43 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Set, seal, vaults.....	45 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brick graves.....	20 00	20 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Superintendent's services.....	20 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Paint and mending.....	7 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tomb repairs.....	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sundries.....	.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	\$21,174 55	\$4,951 80	\$4,835 15	\$245 00	\$59 25	\$40 00
Perpetual care.....	8,300 00	2,097 50	2,495 00	553 00	329 00	.....
Grand totals.....	\$29,474 55	\$7,049 30	\$7,330 15	\$798 00	\$388 25	\$40 00
Total Perpetual Care Fund...	140,613 82	28,262 31	7,290 00	6,686 50	2,021 50	.....
Perpetual care interest, 1915-1916.....	\$5,006 75	\$1,027 88	\$200 39	\$226 26	\$60 00	.....
Bills due 1897-1915.....	\$661 15	\$161 50	\$15 00	\$41 70	.....	.....

February 1, 1915, to January 31, 1916.

[illegible]

Expenditures for Fiscal Year

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT.	Office Expenses.	Mount Hope.	Fairview.	Evergreen and Market Street.	Dorchester North.	Phipps Street and Bunker Hill.	Dorchester South.
Labor.....		\$52,968 08	\$6,178 75	\$5,779 25	\$1,575 75	\$1,145 00	\$904 50
Superintendent's salary.....	\$3,000 00						
Secretary's salary.....	1,907 95						
Clerks.....	1,774 52						
Pensions.....	2,551 09						
Repairs and brick, lumber and cement.....		642 28	66 17	37 44			
Greenhouse boiler, pipes.....		735 54					
Steam roller.....		650 00					
Tarvia.....		339 98					
Drain pipes.....		267 90					
Blasting work.....		208 80					
Interior telephones.....		103 18					
Stone crusher.....		87 95					
Waterpipe.....		18 61		20 46	4 00		
Tablet removal.....					12 90		
Wall and fence.....					30 00		
Drain connection.....							
Tomb repairs.....							
Fuel.....		1,801 63	21 83	63 47	36 65		
Horse Feed.....		1,239 85	183 74	300 00			
Tools and hardware.....		759 19	24 01	4 60			
Lowering devices.....		287 88					
Tents.....		98 00					
Auto supplies and repairs.....		827 63					
Seeds, plants and sod.....		584 41	31 25	53 00			
Markers.....		423 99	87 25	28 70			
Printing, binding.....	335 85	277 70	31 89	47 54	46		
Electric light.....		246 65		9 00			
Team hire and freight.....		220 00	115 50			22 00	
Harness and stable supplies.....		144 70					
Telephones.....	2 27	123 36	54 29	30 80	35 00		
Manure, fertilizer.....		120 00		15 00			
Postage.....	81 00	61 00	14 00	6 00	2 00		
Stationery, directory, papers.....	44 23	49 95		62	89		
Flower pots.....		48 15					
Furnishings, laundry.....		45 78		28 75			
Vehicle repairs.....		33 75					
Bonds.....	29 00						
Carfares, travel, telegrams.....	112 85	16 16					
Shoeing, veterinary.....		12 70		52 40			
Photographs.....		10 00					
American flags.....		7 35					
Advertising.....		6 00					
Medical.....		3 00					
Sundries.....		23 00					
	\$9,838 76	\$63,494 15	\$6,808 68	\$6,477 03	\$1,697 65	\$1,167 00	\$904 50

1915-16. Regular Appropriation.

Bennington Street.	Copp's Hill.	King's Chapel.	Granary.	Eustis Street.	Westerly.	South End South.	Hawes.	Central.	Walter Street.	Totals.
\$872 50	\$776 50	\$762 25	\$705 50	\$505 00	\$330 00	\$185 00	\$135 00	\$60 50	\$30 00	\$72,913 58
.....	3,000 00
.....	1,907 95
.....	1,774 52
.....	2,551 09
25 40	3 50	.....	2 20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	776 99
.....	735 54
.....	650 00
.....	339 98
.....	267 90
.....	208 80
.....	103 18
.....	87 95
42 20	6 65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91 92
.....	12 90
.....	14 02	.....	.....	35 00	.....	16 05	.....	95 07
.....	122 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	122 00
.....	20 77	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	553 35	.....	574 12
.....	12 38	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,935 96
.....	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,723 59
.....	788 12
.....	287 88
.....	98 00
.....	827 63
.....	668 66
.....	539 94
.....	693 44
12 00	255 65
.....	369 50
25	144 70
.....	245 97
.....	135 00
.....	164 00
.....	95 69
.....	48 15
.....	74 53
.....	33 75
.....	29 00
36	129 37
.....	65 10
.....	10 00
.....	7 35
.....	6 00
.....	3 00
.....	23 00
\$952 71	\$935 47	\$762 25	\$728 37	\$505 00	\$330 00	\$220 00	\$135 00	\$629 90	\$30 00	\$95,616 47

ANNUAL REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Trustees of the Cemetery Department, City of Boston:

GENTLEMEN,— I herewith submit my seventh annual report as general superintendent of this department for the year beginning February 1, 1915, and ending January 31, 1916.

A detailed statement of the work performed during the year is as follows: And while a less amount has been done under certain divisions than in the preceding year, I beg to call your attention to the fact that the continuous rainy season throughout the summer necessitated the employment of a very much larger crew of men to attend to the grass cutting by lawn mowers, which materially lessened our capacity for doing other work.

	Interments.	Lots Sold.	Graves Sold.	Lots in Perpetual Care.	Graves in Perpetual Care.	Lots in Annual Care.	Graves in Annual Care.	Foundations Built.	Preparing and Planting.	Sundry Work.
Mount Hope.....	1,441	44	437	1,427	229	137	65	214	220	120
Fairview.....	236	17	148	69	7	13	4	46	13	14
Evergreen.....	82	13	22	247	150	58	42	42	5	3
Dorchester North.....	11	....	....	73	....	30	1	5	2	6
Bennington Street.....	10	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Dorchester South.....	5	....	....	15	....	7	....	1	....	....
Phipps Street.....	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Copp's Hill.....	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Bunker Hill.....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Granary.....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
South End South.....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	1,794	74	607	1,831	386	245	112	308	240	143

MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY.— Chapel used for burial service 28 times; receiving tomb used 40 times. Land sold for burial purposes in square feet: For lots, 2,975, and for graves, 8,740. Seven government markers received and set. Seven bodies in receiving tomb and 23 in graves removed from cemetery; 35 removals made within cemetery.

We have extended the development of the large area on the front by the further construction of Greenlawn avenue, which required the excavation of the loam for its entire depth, replacing the subgrade with loose gravel for drainage, thoroughly compacting it with the steam roller and surfacing the top with broken stone and finishing with hot "Tarvia X" by the penetration method; finally covering with a coat of stone dust.

In the extension of this avenue construction there were used about 200 tons of broken stone taken from the grounds and crushed at our own plant. The extension contains 15,840 square feet. There were about 4,000 feet of other avenues surfaced with stones and treated with tarvia. About 275 tons of stone taken out of ground, crushed and used in avenue construction and in foundation work.

About 20,000 cubic yards of loam have been removed and used about the grounds in resurfacing and grading other areas, thus improving about 50,000 square feet; 8 iron fences around old lots removed and lots put in order and about 30,000 square feet of sods have been cut and laid.

Improvement of many lots at Mount Hope Cemetery by removal of surplus granite posts and lowering of the corner bound posts, and regrading, fertilizing and seeding has been continued, and closer attention has been paid by the detail of a special crew to care for the lots and graves under perpetual care.

There has been distributed for border plantations during this year 500 white pine trees. The steam roller was sent to the factory and thoroughly overhauled, and returned in first-class condition. The greenhouse heating apparatus has been overhauled and repaired, giving a resultant greater heating efficiency. The galvanized-iron conductor pipes on the greenhouse being worn out were removed, and copper gutters were substituted therefor. Drain pipe is now being laid in the Greenlawn avenue section, and this work will enable us to drain several acres. Good progress has been made in blasting,

and in the removal and crushing of rock taken therefrom. The land thus developed is used for single grave burials.

The usual amount of work and attention has been given to the trees in the various grounds of the department by the removal of diseased and dying trees, pruning of a very large number and attending to the suppression of gypsy moths, of which we had a heavy invasion from adjoining territories, although our own grounds had been thoroughly cleaned. I am pleased to report the almost total extinction of the brown-tail moth.

The result of the work performed at the Phipps Street Ground is now showing satisfactory results, and the entire area is covered with good lawn grass and is kept lawn mowed, adding materially to the condition and appearance of this ground. The same may be said of the work performed the year previous at Copp's Hill Burying Ground. Extra work was performed at the Bennington Street Ground in East Boston, consisting of cutting of the grass of the entire surface, and the digging out or removal of cedar tree and scrub growth, thoroughly raking and lawn mowing. The cutting of this area by lawn mower and the removal of the surface will greatly improve the condition in the future.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY.—Work done in square feet. Land prepared for lots, 30,000; regraded and seeded, 10,000; regraded and ready for seed, 15,000; avenues constructed, 11,000; borders sodded, 1,000; avenues resurfaced with gravel, 14,000; 48 trees removed; 48 tree stumps removed; all trees pruned; 200 grave, 36 lot and 3 government markers set; 200 cubic yards of loam hauled; 150 single cart loads of manure hauled from fire engine house in Hyde Park. One body in receiving tomb and 2 in graves removed from cemetery; 10 removals made within cemetery.

When Fairview Cemetery was acquired from Hyde Park we found no plans had ever been made of the cemetery. As a necessary beginning an outline survey plan has now been made of this ground, and granite monuments have been established at the angle points as shown on this plan.

Material improvement has been made on the areas already sold and on the existing avenues. There were also planted along the borders of the avenues a number of Norway maple trees taken from the nursery at Mount Hope.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY.—Chapel used for burial service 7 times; receiving tomb used 5 times. Land sold for burial purposes in square feet: For lots, 2,101, and for graves, 528. Fifty-six boundary posts set; 1 brick grave built; cement vault used 2 times; 3 trees removed.

Work done in square feet. Land prepared for single graves, 1,053; avenues trenched and stoned, 1,312; borders regraded and resodded, 1,452; lots and graves sodded, 1,500.

The usual amount of improvement work in the preparation of ground has been done; the removal of earth materials from avenues which is used for filling and grading was replaced with stone taken from the land in preparation for burials.

DORCHESTER NORTH GROUND.—One thousand two hundred square feet of land graded and seeded in Section 0; 70 headstones straightened; Clapp, Atherton and Pierce avenues flushed and rolled by steam roller, also four double loads of stone dust used on same; surface water pipes repaired; pilaster of concrete wall settled at an angle point and was replaced by the placing of a larger pier.

DORCHESTER SOUTH GROUND.—Three thousand four hundred square feet of land rough graded; 3 iron fences removed; 3 trees removed; 12 lot posts reset with grade and 14 removed; poison ivy removed from stone wall on boundary line; the main avenue flushed and rolled by steam roller, and three double loads of cracked stone used on same.

PHIPPS STREET GROUND.—Three thousand four hundred square feet of land regraded and seeded down.

BUNKER HILL GROUND.—Fourteen thousand square feet of land graded and seeded down; 211 headstones, 401 footstones and 1 monument reset; 195 graves graded and filled up; 42 trees removed; 310 feet of sod laid; old iron fence removed; front gate repaired.

COPP'S HILL GROUND.—A dry well in the cemetery was connected with the sewer on Hull street, thus abating a long standing nuisance. This work was done by a contractor, who also made extensive repairs at the same time when a large tomb caved in. Three tombs repaired by the department.

GRANARY GROUND.—One tomb repaired.

CENTRAL GROUND.—The 60 tombs on the west side of this ground, Nos. 1 to 41 inclusive and 124 to 140 inclusive, are granite faced and capped and grass covered on top, and are

joined together in the form of a lengthened oblong. A timely repair was made on these tombs by capping and pointing, including additional work of relaying stone wall, taking down stone and iron fences and removing trees. The work was done by contract.

EUSTIS STREET GROUND.—One tomb opened for investigation.

SOUTH END SOUTH GROUND.—Part of stone wall on south side of ground fell down and was repaired by contractor.

I urgently recommend for the coming year a complete overhauling and regrading of Westerly Cemetery, and the construction of a service building at Evergreen Cemetery, which you have continuously urged for several years. The present building is not only inadequate and inconvenient, but is really in an unsafe condition, and is far from being a credit to the city.

The custodians of the various cemeteries now in the employ of the department have rendered satisfactory service.

I am pleased to again express my appreciation of the continued courtesy, fair-minded consideration, advice and support of the trustees during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD W. ROSS,
General Superintendent.

SUMMARY.

The department estimates for 1916 were made up in accordance with the new budget system now in vogue. The total amount requested is \$99,040.08, of which amount \$84,479.08 is for labor, permanent, temporary and unassigned. This leaves a total of \$14,561 for all other departmental expenses. On account of the strict economy urged upon department heads this Board is compelled to refrain from asking for the necessary money for repairs and improvements which we believe should be made, and the delay in making these repairs and improvements is not making the bill any lighter for the city when the work finally must be done.

This year we ask for \$4,200 for repairs and improvements in the Central Ground on Boston Common, and if the ground has been given any care outside of ordinary grass cutting and tree removing since its establishment in 1756 up to 1915, neither the condition of the ground nor the records give evidence thereof; out of this amount we also hope to do absolutely necessary work in the Westerly Ground and practically the same story can be repeated as of the Central, with the exception of the fact that the Westerly Ground was established in 1683, and this same amount will also include wall repairs at the Copp's Hill Ground. There is no excuse to longer defer this latter repair, and we now point out the danger of collapse of more than half of the Hull street wall of this ground.

Since the institution of the pension system for city employees in the labor service, the department has pensioned as follows: 1911, 1; 1912, 7 additional, none deceased; 1913, 1 additional, 2 deceased; 1914, 2 additional, 2 deceased; 1915, no additions, none deceased.

We have now seven pensioners on the roll, and under the pension law as existing the number of pensioners will in all probability appreciably increase. The total amount paid for pensions by the department from the beginning is \$8,797.78.

Good progress is being made on the card index and lot plan work for Mount Hope and Evergreen Cemeteries. Within comparatively recent years cemeteries did not recognize the value of a detailed index of burials, including names and locations. The beginning of the work in this department was made at Mount Hope Cemetery, where a careful survey was first made of the entire ground. The lots were then plotted out on the plan, and from this plan lot cards were printed, measuring 8 inches in length by 10 inches in width. This card contains the name of the owner, lot number, location, dimensions of lot, area in square feet, statement regarding monument or grave markers, and the number of interments and name, whether adult or child, with a reference to the index number in the burial book. The lots are then drawn on the card on a scale of 5 feet to 1 inch, graves being shown and numbered. A small star in each grave indicates a burial, and a glance at the interment record on the card shows the name of the person buried in that particular grave. To make the index complete 4 by 6 inch cards containing full information regarding a burial are typewritten and placed in alphabetical order. It is intended to extend the system to single grave burials, using the small cards both alphabetically and by grave numbers. While the task would be a tremendous one if the index system is extended to the twenty department cemeteries, we believe that the work should be done, as it is an absolute necessity and when completed will be a most invaluable index.

In 1909 the City of Boston placed a bronze tablet on a granite boulder on the unused piece of land adjoining the westerly side of the Dorchester North Burying Ground. When the new cemetery wall and the con-

venience station were erected at this point the boulder and tablet were in an inconspicuous position between the wall and the building. Acting upon numerous requests, and with the approval of your Honor, this tablet was removed this year from the boulder and placed on the westerly gate of the burying ground, although the inscription makes no direct reference to the cemetery. It reads as follows: "In memory of the first settlers of Dorchester and of the townspeople who died for their country in the Colonial Wars 1675-1763 Revolution 1775-83 Second with England 1812-15 Mexican 1846-48 Rebellion 1861-65 and Spanish War 1898-99 Erected by the City of Boston June 5, 1909."

In 1914 a committee of the trustees was appointed to consider plans for the erection of an office building at Fairview Cemetery, the cost of same to be met from the Fairview Special Appropriation which the city received as a cemetery fund in 1912 when Hyde Park was annexed to Boston. Acting upon the report of this committee, the Board of Trustees engaged Messrs. Berry and Davidson, architects, to prepare plans for an office building and chapel. Upon the acceptance of these plans, bids were requested and opened on August 9 and were as follows:

	ITEMS.		
	First.	Second.	Third.
William Flynn Company	\$8,385 00	\$8,550 00	\$8,430 00
John Bowen Company	10,200 00	10,440 00	10,570 00
Archdeacon & Sullivan	10,608 00	10,770 00	10,946 00
W. A. Murtfeldt Company, Inc.	10,885 00	11,135 00	11,015 00
M. V. Goodwin	10,996 00	11,286 00	11,306 00
P. H. Rose Construction Company	16,590 00	.....	.....

The contract was finally awarded to William Flynn Company for \$8,595, being an addition of \$165 on Item 2 and \$45 on Item 1. The work was commenced on August 16, and on account of various delays will not be

completed until March 1, 1916. An addition of \$585 was allowed for various changes in the plans, and the amount of the contract now totals \$9,180.

The office and chapel combined is placed on Fairview avenue, at the junction of Dearborn and Charles streets, which commands the entrance to the cemetery.

The exterior has been carried out in the Gothic style in its simple form. The walls are of red brick, with light colored stone trimmings, the roof of slate, making an attractive building, surrounded as it is with trees and shrubs, very nicely suited to this rural situated cemetery. A large and ample porch entrance is provided both to the chapel and administration office.

The interior has been carried out in a straightforward and inexpensive manner. In the chapel the wood construction of the roof has been left exposed and the wood stained dark, the walls plastered and painted, the floors linoleum, and altogether, with the tracery windows glazed with cathedral glass, it gives a churchlike impression. The pews are of oak, stained dark.

The building is steam-heated, with modern plumbing, electric fixtures in chapel, Swedish hammered iron, and indirect lighting in office. Adjoining the chapel is the executive office of the cemetery, and contains office, lobby for the public and toilet. All this is carried out to harmonize with the chapel. The basement contains the public toilet for men and women and the heating apparatus.

In view of the large amount of time and labor involved when burials are made in private tombs in the old cemeteries, the trustees voted that on and after June 1, 1915, a charge of \$15 will be made for opening and placing in private tombs in the department cemeteries, with the exception of Mount Hope, Evergreen and Fairview cemeteries, human remains, and no interment shall be made in any tomb unless a department official is present.

A conference was held with the Schoolhouse Commissioners relative to the erection of a new school on

Charter street, the land adjoining Copp's Hill Burying Ground. As a result this Board voted permission to the Schoolhouse Commissioners to rebuild the cemetery wall and reset tablets on the boundary line between the proposed school land and the cemetery.

During the year just closed conferences have been frequently held with your Honor relative to the department work and we have returned from these meetings with a keen sense of cordiality and helpfulness on your part. We beg to thank you for this spirit which has been continuous during your term of office.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. PHIPPS, *Chairman.*

JACOB R. MORSE.

FREDERICK E. ATTEAUX.

ALBERT W. HERSEY.

JOHN J. MADDEN.

